



03500.016090.1

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

HIDEKAZU SHIMOMURA

Application No.: 10/624,544

Filed: July 23, 2003

For: OPTICAL SCANNING
APPARATUS AND IMAGE
FORMING APPARATUS
USING THE SAME

Examiner: E. Cherry

Group Art Unit: 2872

February 23, 2005

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each non-U.S. patent document so listed is enclosed. Copies of U.S. patent documents are not enclosed, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a) as revised September, 2004 and pursuant to the waiver published at 1287 OG 163 (October, 2004).

U.S. Patent 4,435,041
U.S. Patent 5,940,200
U.S. Patent 6,473,233
Europe 816,894
Europe 1,139,142
Japan 2000-352680

These documents were cited during prosecution of a European patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the European Search Report, which is dated February 2, 2005, is enclosed. In view of this date, it is hereby certified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) that each document in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

Other documents cited in the Search Report have been cited in the Information Disclosure Statements dated July 22, 2003 and December 3, 2004.

The concise explanation of relevance for the non-English documents cited above is provided in the European Search Report and by the English language abstracts included with the cited art. The Examiner is, of course, referred to the European Examiner's comments on the English language documents as well.

The European Search Report lists U.S. Patent 6,473,233 as an English language counterpart to Japan 2000-352680.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,
California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to
our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael K. O'Neill", is written over a horizontal line.

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10/624,544

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT

Hidekazu Shimomura

LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)
(Use several sheets if necessary)

FILING DATE

July 23, 2003

GROUP

2872

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	4,435,041	3/6/84	Torok, et al.	350	162.24	
	5,940,200	8/17/99	lizuka	359	206	
	6,473,233	10/29/02	lizuka	359	566	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
816,894	1/7/98	Europe			
1,139,142	10/4/01	Europe			
2000-352680	12/19/00	Japan			Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1